

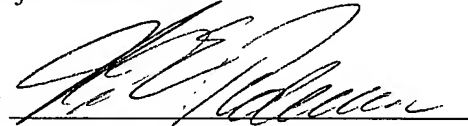
**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenji YASUDA et al.

By



Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145

Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krq  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
February 23, 2005